Evening air service between Delhi and Guwahati

808. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce evening flight from Delhi-Guwahati and Guwahati-Delhi;

(b) if so, what is the position in this regard; and

(c) whether any private airlines have been asked for such flights to Guwahati?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East Region. It is, however, upto the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Gudielines issued by the Government.

Project report on purchase of aircrafts

809. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any project report from Air India for the acquisition of more aircrafts for it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Air India requires more than 75 aircrafts in three years to meet its demand for operation; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Air India and Air India Charters Limited (AICL), a subsidiary of Air India, have submitted the following Projects for approval of the Government:

(i) for acquisition of 18xB-737-800W aircrafts for induction by AICL at a total cost of Rs. 4,951 crores; and

(ii) for acquisition of 50 new long range aircrafts *viz.* 8xB777-200LR, 15xB777-300ER and 27xB787-8 at a total cost of Rs. 33,197 crores.

The project reports for acquisition of new aircrafts by Air India and AICL are based on the Revised Long Term Fleet Plan which covers the period from 2005-06 to 2012-13. This plan envisages the combined fleet size of Air India and AICL to be 74 aircrafts by 2012-13, *viz.* 50 New Long Range aircrafts for Air India, 18 B737-800W for AICL and the existing 6xB747-400 which will remain in the fleet.

Committee on management of airports

810. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a Committee on the management of airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) what is Government's reaction to the recommendations; and

(d) whether all the recommendations made by the Committee have been fully implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A High Level Inquiry Committee (the R.C. Jain Committee) constituted by the Ministry of Civil Aviation made major recommendations on organizational set up, operational issues, Air Traffic Management and Communication, Navigation and Surveillance systems, Security, Emergency procedures, Customs, Cargo, Immigration, Airport facilities and Coordination in its report submitted on 14th July, 2000. The report was sent to the Airports Authority of India, Director General of Civil Aviation, Commissioner of Security (Civil Aviation), Ministry of Home Affairs, Customs, Immigration Department, etc. for implementing the recommendations, wherever feasible. In so far as matters relating to the Airports Authority of India were concerned, a sub-committee was constituted to look into the major recommendations and take necessary steps to implement them. The Ministry of Civil Aviation has also reviewed the implementation of the recommendations, from time to time.

(d) Information will be collected and laid on the Table of the Sabha.